

HCR 35 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Helm, Rep. Smith
DB

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 04/24/19
Action: Be Adopted.
Vote: 7-0-0-0
Yeas: 7 - Boles, Holvey, Nosse, Smith Warner, Sprenger, Williamson, Wilson
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 4/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes 2019 as International Year of Salmon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- International efforts to establish the Year of the Salmon
- Impact of wild salmon on Oregon culture
- Similar legislation in Alaska
- Efforts to rehabilitate wild salmon stocks
- Diversity of wild salmon and hatchery salmon, steelhead, and trout in Oregon

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The International Year of the Salmon establishes a period to celebrate and educate about the contributions of wild salmon to the health and economy of the State of Oregon, the United States, Canada, and other nations around the world, and to explore ways to rebuild salmon stocks.

Wild salmon have historically been an important part of the diets, economies, and cultures of people throughout the northern hemisphere. Wild salmon have also been recognized as a keystone species, a species on which other species in an ecosystem largely depend, such that if it were removed, the ecosystem would change drastically. The International Year of the Salmon promotes the sharing of available historical and current data about wild salmon and their environments. The health of wild salmon is an indicator of the general environmental health of their surroundings.

The commercial and recreational salmon fishing industries in southeast Alaska, Washington, and Oregon create more than \$3.4 billion in revenue and more than 26,000 jobs each year. The sustainability of Oregon's commercial and recreational fisheries depends on the recovery of wild salmon populations. In 2017, nine of the 22 Chinook stocks along the west coast of the United States and Canada failed to meet escapement goals agreed to by the Pacific Salmon Commission and 28 populations of salmon and steelhead on the west coast of the United States are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

House Concurrent Resolution 35 recognizes 2019 as International Year of the Salmon and expresses support for the associated global initiative affirming the importance of wild salmon.